

## Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00

SY-10 OMB-01 DRC-01 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 USSS-00 /167 W

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O R 250950Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7713

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 13871

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, SA, XF

SUBJ: JAPANESE RESPONSE TO ARAB APPROACH ON ME

REF: A. JIDDA 4688; B. TOKYO 13617

SUMMARY: FONOFF NEARLY READY TO REPLY TO ARAB NOTE  
VERBALE OF OCT 19 URGING OUTSPOKEN JAPANESE STAND IN  
SUPPORT OF ARAB CAUSE. FONOFF SOURCE TOLD EMBASSY HOW-  
EVER THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT THAT REPLY, WHICH WILL  
PARAPHRASE UN RES. 242, WOULD SATISFY ARABS. IN THIS  
EVENT, FONOFF WILL PROBABLY SEEK CONSULTATIONS WITH  
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USG IN NEXT FEW DAYS. END SUMMARY.

1. FONOFF VICE MIN HOGEN TOLD AMBASSADOR OCT 24 THAT FONOFF NOW PREPARING NOTE VERBALE IN RESPONSE TO NOTE PRESENTED BY 10 ARAB AMBASSADORS ON OCT 19 ( REF B). HOGEN SAID THAT REPLY WOULD BASICALLY BE A RESTATEMENT OF GOJ STATEMENT ON CEASEFIRE BUT QTE IN BETTER WORDS UNQTE.

2. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF REFTTEL A, EMBOFF MET WITH JIBIKI, DEPUTY HEAD OF FONOFF ME DIV, TO TRY DETERMINE WHAT EFFECT YAMANI COMMENTS WOULD HAVE ON JAPANESE POSITION AND REPLY TO ARABS. JIBIKI SAID AMB TAKASUGI IN SAUDI ARABIA HAD PHONED TOKYO EVENING OF OCT 24 TO PASS ON HIGHLIGHTS OF CONVERSATION (JIBIKI WAS PRESENT WHILE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE). JIBIKI SEEMED AWARE OF ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CALLED FOR BY YAMANI IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE "FRIENDLY" STATUS (REF A), BUT DID NOT SEEM AWARE THAT ANYTHING MORE THAN 10 PERCENT CUT IN EXPORTS TO JAPAN WAS CONTEMPLATED. (FACT THAT CABLES TAKE THREE DAYS TO ARRIVE FROM JAPANESE EMBASSY JIDDA PROBABLY ACCOUNTS FOR THIS LACK OF KNOWLEDGE.)

3. JIBIKI SAID HIS DIVISION HAD PREPARED DRAFT RESPONSE TO ARAB NOTE OF OCT 19 AND THAT NOTE IN REPLY WOULD BE DELIVERED TO SAUDI ARABIAN AMBASSADOR (AS REPRESENTATIVE OF ARAB DIPLOMATIC CORPS) PROBABLY LATE OCT 25 OR OCT 26. JIBIKI ALSO SAID NOTE WOULD BREAK NO NEW GROUND BUT WOULD PARAPHRASE UN RES 242 AND WOULD CALL FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND REFER TO "LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE." IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, KATAKURA, DEP HEAD OF FONOFF INTL RESOURCES DIV, ADDED TO ABOVE THAT FONOFF MIGHT ORALLY TELL SAUDI AMBASSADOR IN PRESENTING WRITTEN REPLY THAT JAPAN WOULD SUPPORT CALL FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM "ALL" OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. THIS WOULD REPRESENT SMALL STEP BEYOND UN RES 242.

4. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF YAMANI REMARKS, JIBIKI BELIEVED IT VERY PROBABLE ARABS WOULD CONSIDER NOTE "MORE JAPANESE LIP-SERVICE" IN SUPPORT OF ARAB GOALS. FONMIN OHIRA, JIBIKI SAID, CALLED SPECIAL MEETING OF SENIOR FONOFF OFFICIALS MORNING OCT 25 TO DISCUSS THIS POSSIBILITY. CONSENSUS  
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SUS AT MEETING SEEMED TO BE THAT IF ARABS WERE DISPLEASED WITH NOTE VERBALE AS EXPECTED, JAPAN WOULD HAVE TO SEEK CONSULTATION WITH US WITHIN NEXT SEVERAL DAYS (I.E. TRYING TO FULFILL YAMANI CONDITION THAT JAPAN UNDERTAKE "KISSINGER-LIKE ACTIVITY WITH US"). CONSIDERATION NOW BEING GIVEN TO WHETHER GOJ WOULD APPROACH USG IN TOKYO, IN WASHINGTON, OR AT UN, JIBIKI SAID.  
INGERSOLL

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